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PHILIPPINES

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

LOCAL INITIATIVE FOR AFFORDABLE WASTEWATER (LINAW) PROJECT

BACKGROUND



Domestic and industrial pollution caused by rapid urbanization and industrialization pose significant health risks and long-term economic consequences for the Philippines. According to the World Bank, only 6 out of 115 Philippine cities have sewerage systems, resulting in a high incidence of water-borne diseases responsible for over 30% of all reported illness from 1996-2000, and P2.3 billion a year in lost income. To address this enormous problem, the Philippine Clean Water Act was passed in March 2004 that requires local government units (LGUs) to play a central role in water quality management.

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keyword : LINAW, wastewater

MORE INFO:

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Period Covered: Oct. 2004 to Sept. 2005
Mechanism: Task Order SUM IQC

PURPOSE & ACTIVITIES

Recognizing the impact of water pollution on quality of life in urban areas, four Philippine LGUs are taking a proactive role in developing innovative solutions for reducing pollution.

The cities of *Naga, Iloilo, Dumaguete, and Muntinlupa* are engaged in Local Initiatives for Affordable Wastewater Treatment (LINAW), a two-year project to identify and develop solutions to wastewater pollution. In particular, they are pilot testing small-scale, low-cost treatment systems and developing plans and projects for longer-term solutions to their domestic wastewater challenges. LINAW is supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the United States-Asia Environmental Partnership (US-AEP).



Under LINAW, the four participating LGUs are developing strategic interventions and solutions based on a participatory action planning process where city officials and stakeholders work together to identify and develop priority projects. LINAW assists LGUs in this process through:

- ✓ Targeted technical assistance, including project design and packaging support;
- ✓ Site visits to learn about best practices;
- ✓ Participatory planning workshops;
- ✓ Information and resource materials on technology and financing options;
- ✓ Public awareness campaigns ; and
- ✓ Sharing project results in both local and national forums.



Operating under a two-track program, LINAW supports development of “rapid response” solutions that address immediate pollution problems through specific on-the-ground interventions. For the second track, LINAW addresses more significant wastewater challenges that require more comprehensive assistance in planning,

project design, technology and financing solutions, project packaging, and outside funding.